

REMARKS

Claims 29-49 were pending in the application. Claims 38-42, 44, and 45 have been withdrawn. Claims 29 and 46 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled or added. Therefore, claims 29-49 are pending and resubmitted for consideration.

Rejections

Claims 29-37, 43, and 46-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,113,131 ("Uehara").

The rejection should be withdrawn because Uehara fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. For example, Uehara fails to disclose, teach or suggest a method of making a cover component comprising, among other things, in which the "cover component comprises only a single layer" as called for by amended independent claim 29. Amended independent claim 46 calls for a method of manufacturing a cover component that , among other things, that the "cover component comprises only a single layer," which is not disclosed, taught, suggested by Uehara.

Uehara discloses a cover component in an instrument panel that is formed by three layers: core layer 22, foamed layer 23, and skin 24. *See* Uehara at col. 5, lines 8-15; col. 7, lines 15-20; and Fig. 1B. Thus, Uehara clearly does not disclose a cover component that comprises "only a single layer." Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Claim 30-45 and 47-49 depend from claims 29 or 26 and are allowable therewith, for at least the reasons set forth above, without regard to the further patentable subject matter set forth in these dependent claims.

For example, Uehara fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a method of making a cover component that comprises, among other things "a bottom recess of the recessed line near an end of the recessed line is molded to form a slope about 30° to 60° inclined relative to a back of the cover component" as required by claim 32. Additionally, claim 48 calls for a method of manufacturing a cover component that comprises, among other things, "forming a bottom

recess of the recessed line near an end of the recessed line in a slope about 30° to 60° inclined relative to a back of the cover component,” which Uehara fails to disclose, teach, or suggest.

The Examiner contends that the angle between an edge of the groove 31b and the surface of the lid 31 in Uehara is about 30 to 60 degrees. *See* Office Action at p. 3. The Examiner further refers to Figure 4(b) of Uehara. To the contrary, the Examiner is incorrect. The angle referenced by the Examiner in Uehara is incorrect for at least two reasons. *See* Office Action at p. 9. First, the line drawn by the Examiner in the Office Action is not accurate. Figure 4(b) of Uehara appears to have a vertical line along the side of the groove 31b. *See* Uehara at Fig. 4(b). Second, the angle drawn by the Examiner is based off of a side of the groove 31b, and not “near an end” as required by claim 32. *Cf.* Office Action at p. 9 *with* Uehara at Fig. 4(b). Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 32 and 48 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

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Respectfully submitted,

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